

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A printer for printing an image on an image receiving material provided on a backing material, said backing material having regularly spaced markings provided on the back thereof, said printer comprising:
a printhead for printing the image on the image receiving material, when said printhead is in a printing configuration and said image receiving material is being pulled from a supply;
a detector for detecting said markings provided on the backing material on which the image receiving material is provided while the image receiving material moves past the printhead and the image is being printed on the image receiving material; and
a device for determining at least one of a spacing between two markings and a width of a marking, comparing the determined marking width and/or spacing with a respective reference value and for causing the printing to be stopped if, as said image receiving material is being pulled from the supply and is moving past said printhead, at least one of the determined spacing and/or width differs from the respective reference value by more than a predetermined amount.
2. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1 wherein said detector comprises at least one of a light sensitive receiver and a light source.
3. (Currently amended) A printer as claimed in claim 2, wherein said light sensitive receiver comprises a ~~light-emitting diode~~ phototransistor.
4. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 2, wherein said light source comprises a light emitting diode.

5. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said determining device comprises a processor.
6. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein printing is stopped if the determined spacing differs from the respective reference value by 20% or more.
7. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said determining device is arranged to cause an error message to be displayed if printing is stopped.
8. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1 in combination with a PC.
9. (Previously presented) A printer as claimed in claim 1, where said reference value comprises a plurality of values defining a range.
10. (Previously presented) In combination, a printer as claimed in claim 1 and an image receiving material provided on a backing material with regularly spaced markings provided on the back of the backing material.
11. (Original) A combination as claimed in claim 10, wherein said image receiving material comprises one of continuous tape and die cut labels.
12. (Withdrawn) An image receiving material provided on a backing material with regularly spaced markings provided on the back of the backing material for use in a printer comprising a detector for detecting said markings, device for determining at least one of a spacing between two markings and a width of a marking, comparing the determined marking width and/or spacing with a respective reference value and for causing printing to be stopped if at least one of the determined spacing and/or width differs from the respective reference value by more than a predetermined amount.

13. (Currently amended) A printer system for printing an image on an image receiving material provided on a backing material, said backing material having regularly spaced markings provided on the back thereof, said printer system comprising:
a printhead for printing the image on the image receiving material, when said printhead is in a printing configuration and said image receiving material is being pulled from a supply;
a detector for detecting said markings provided on the backing material on which the image receiving material is provided while the image receiving material moves past the printhead and the image is being printed on the image receiving material; and
a device for determining at least one of a spacing between two markings and a width of a marking, comparing the determined marking width and/or spacing with a respective reference value and for causing the printing of the image to be stopped if, as said image receiving material is being pulled from the supply and is moving past said printhead, at least one of the determined spacing and/or width differs from the respective reference value by more than a predetermined amount.

14. (Original) A printer system as claimed in claim 13 comprising a printer and a PC.

15. (Currently amended) A printer for printing an image on a image receiving material provided on a backing material, said backing material having regularly spaced markings provided on the back thereof, said printer comprising:
~~a detector for arranged to detecting~~ said markings; and
a transmitter ~~for arranged to sending~~ information relating to said detected marking to a computer for processing.

16. (Withdrawn) An image receiving material comprising a backing layer, said backing layer having on one side thereof an image receiving layer comprising one of continuous material and die cut labels, and on the other side of the backing layer, regularly spaced markings being provided, said regularly spaced markings being, in use, used to stop printing of a printer if the detected marking width and/or marking spacing differs from a respective reference value by more than a predetermined amount.

17. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, wherein in the printer, said detector comprises at least one of a light sensitive receiver and a light source.
18. (Currently amended) The combination of claim 17, wherein said light sensitive receiver comprises a ~~light emitting diode~~ phototransistor.
19. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 17, wherein said light source comprises a light emitting diode.
20. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, wherein in the printer, the determining device comprises a processor.
21. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, wherein in the printer, printing is stopped if the determined spacing differs from the respective reference value by 20% or more.
22. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, wherein in the printer, the determining device is arranged to cause an error message to be displayed if printing is stopped.
23. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, in further combination with a PC.
24. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 10, wherein said reference value comprises a plurality of values defining a range.
25. (New) A printer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said device for determining is arranged to determine said at least one of a spacing between two markings and a width of a marking by multiplying a time for which said at least one of a spacing and a width is detected by an assumed rotational speed of a platen that is arranged to move the image receiving material past the printhead.